IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A medical article comprising an implantable substrate having a coating, the coating including a polymer comprising a derivative of carboxylated or hydrolyzed poly(lactic acid), or a block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a derivative of carboxylated or hydrolyzed poly(lactic acid), wherein the hydrolyzed poly(lactic acid) has an average molecular weight between about 1,000 and about 20,000 Daltons,

wherein the polymer comprising a derivative of hydrolyzed poly(lactic acid) has two terminal hydroxyl groups, and

wherein the block-copolymer having at least one moiety comprising a derivative of hydrolyzed poly(lactic acid) has two terminal hydroxyl groups.

2. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein the medical article is a stent.

3. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein poly(lactic acid) includes poly(D-lactic acid), poly(L-lactic acid), or poly(D,L-lactic acid).

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The medical article of Claim 1, wherein the block-copolymer includes a diblock-copolymer, a triblock-copolymer, or mixtures thereof.

6. (Original) The medical article of Claim 5, wherein the diblock-copolymer and triblock-copolymer include at least one biocompatible moiety.

7. (Original) The medical article of Claim 6, wherein the biocompatible moiety is poly(ethylene glycol).

8. (Original) The medical article of Claim 6, wherein the biocompatible moiety is selected from a group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), poly(propylene glycol), poly(tetramethylene glycol), polyethylene oxide-co-propylene oxide), ϵ-caprolactone, ß-butyrolactone, δ-valerolactone, glycolide, poly(N-vinyl pyrrolidone), poly(acrylamide methyl propane sulfonic acid) and salts thereof, poly(styrene sulfonate), sulfonated dextran,